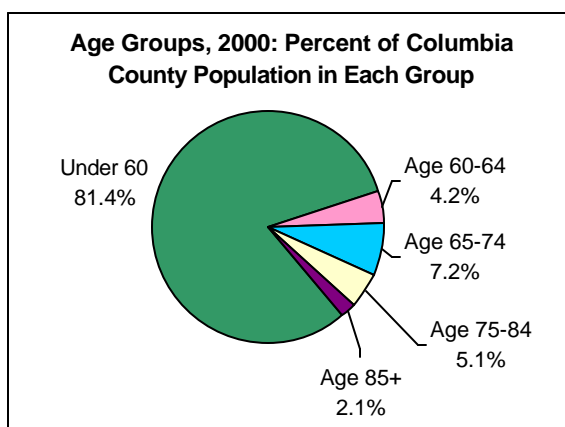

Columbia County's Older Population

A summary of data from the U.S. Census, 2000

Population:

The proportion of people age 65 and older in Columbia County is higher than that of the state as a whole (14.4% versus 13.1%). The rate of growth in the older population since 1990 has been similar in this county to that of the state as a whole (7.3% versus 7.9%). In all, 7,567 people in this county are age 65 or older, and 1,094 of these are age 85 or older. Columbia County's average (or median) age is 38.0 years, compared to a statewide median of 36.0 years.

Columbia County: Population and Change Since 1990						
	2000 Census		1990 Census		Change: 1990-2000	
	Number	% of Total	Number	% of Total	Number	% Change
Total, All Ages	52,468		45,088		7,380	16.4%
Persons 60 and over	9,755	18.6%	9,231	20.5%	524	5.7%
Persons 65 and over	7,567	14.4%	7,055	15.6%	512	7.3%
Persons 85 and over	1,094	2.1%	878	1.9%	216	24.6%



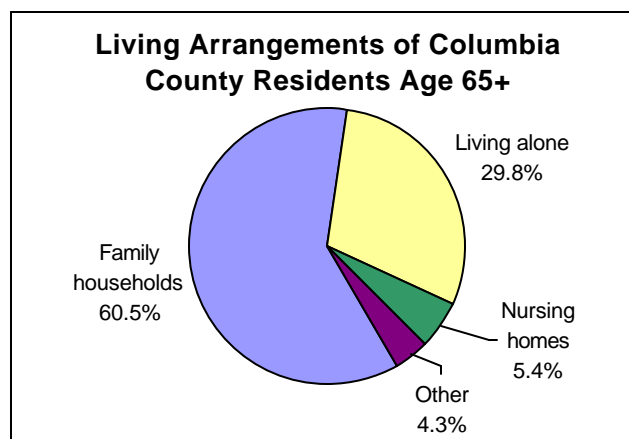
Race:

A large majority (99.5%) of Columbia County's 65 and over population is white. On average, the county's minority groups are younger than whites. Columbia County African Americans have a median age of 28.9 years, and the median age of Hispanics/Latinos here is 25.3 years. Whites, in contrast, average 38.3 years.

Living Arrangements:

Of the 20,439 households in Columbia County, 5,114 include at least one person age 65 or older (25.0% of all households). A total of 4,803 housing units in the county have a "household head" aged 65 or older, and 77.1% of these are owner occupied (the rest are rented).

A majority (60.5%) of the older population lives in "family households" containing at least two people related by blood or marriage, but another 29.8% of people 65 or older live alone. Of those older people in family households, 3.6% are living in the home of one of their children. A total of 410 people age 65 and older live in Columbia County nursing homes (5.4% of all those in this age group). A very small number of the county's older residents live in nonfamily households or in other institutions.



SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000, Summary File 1.

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